

Information About Your LPFM Construction Permit

THE EXPIRATION DATE IS FINAL!

Please note the expiration date on the construction permit. If the construction permit is an initial permit (file number prefix of BNPL or BPL), then the expiration date is eighteen (18) months. If the construction permit modifies a previously granted, but unconstructed permit (file number prefix BMAPL or BMPL), no expiration date will be shown on the new authorization. In this case, the expiration date of the initial construction permit remains in effect for the modification permit.

Before expiration date has passed, construction must be completed and a license application (FCC Form 319) filed to cover this permit. **If construction is not completed and a license application is not filed prior to the expiration date, the construction permit is automatically forfeited and becomes null and void.** No staff action is required to formally cancel a construction permit. *See 47 CFR 73.3598(e).* In some special circumstances, the construction period is eligible for “tolling.” *See 47 CFR 73.3598(b).* Once a license application is filed to cover a construction permit, that pending license application automatically extends the expiration date of the construction permit until the staff acts on the license application. *See 47 CFR 73.1620(c).*

CONSTRUCT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PERMIT

The Commission expects that construction will be completed in strict accordance with the terms and conditions of the construction permit. Please examine the construction permit to make sure that all information is correct. The antenna height above average terrain (HAAT) listed on the permit was calculated from the antenna information provided in your FCC Form 318 construction permit application and a 3” terrain database. The maximum and minimum effective radiated powers (ERP’s) listed on the permit delineate the acceptable range for operating power for a facility at your location and antenna height. If any errors are found, please contact the Audio Services Division's Technical Processing Group immediately so that the error can be corrected.

The Commission's Rules and policies do not authorize deviant construction before grant of a modification application, and any such construction may subject the licensee or permittee to sanctions which may include (but are not limited to) monetary forfeitures. Where circumstances necessitate deviations from the construction permit parameters, these changes must first be approved via the grant of a modification construction permit application on FCC Form 318. “Minor change applications” specifying operation on the same channel, within a specified distance (2 kilometers of the original authorized site for LP100 stations and 1 kilometer for LP10 stations) may be filed at any time. All other modifications are considered “major” and such applications may only be submitted during announced application filing windows.

CALL SIGNS

Within 30 days of the grant date, the applicant should request that a call sign be assigned to the new station's construction permit. The permittee may request that specific call letters be assigned, provided that they are not already in use by another station. All LPFM call signs consist of four letters and an “-LP” suffix. Call signs starting with “W” are assigned to radio stations east of the
(Over)

Mississippi River, and call signs starting with "K" are assigned to radio stations located west of the Mississippi River. Please note that the station may not commence operations until a call sign has been assigned. No call sign will be assigned to an applicant until an initial construction permit is granted by the FCC. *See 47 C.F.R. § 73.3550.*

Call signs must be requested electronically, through the Call Sign Reservation and Authorization System at <http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/callsign/prod/main.html> on the Internet. This function may also be used to see if a particular call sign is available for use. No application filing fee is required from applicants seeking an initial call sign for a new station.

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS)

LPFM licensees must comply with particular parts of the Commission's EAS rules. *See 47 C.F.R. Part 11.* Additional information may be obtained via the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/eas/> or by contacting the Emergency Alert System Staff at (202)-418-1220.

STATION OPERATIONS

At the completion of construction, LPFM permittees may engage in **equipment test operations** pursuant to 47 CFR 73.1610. Brief messages may be radiated from the constructed facilities, operating within the authorized range of ERP, for purposes of testing the antenna and transmission line. Once equipment tests are satisfactorily completed, and provided that no condition on the construction permit prohibits it, **program test operations** pursuant to 47 CFR 73.1620(a)(1) may begin immediately for LPFM stations. A license application on FCC Form 319 must be filed **within 10 days** of commencing operations on program test authority. Once operations commence, LPFM stations must operate at one specific ERP within the permitted range. When program tests commence, the permittee should send a letter to the Technical Processing Group, Mail Stop 1800B3, FCC, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554 (fax 202-418-1411 or 202-418-1410) indicating the dates on which equipment tests and program tests began.

FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE

License application forms (Form 319) may be obtained through the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/mmb/formpage.html> or by calling (202)-418-3676 or 1-(800)-418-3676 and leaving a message on the answering machine provided for that purpose. Forms may also be obtained by mail from the FCC Forms Distribution Center, 9300 E. Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

Status inquiries for construction permit and license applications should be directed to (202)-418-2730. For technical questions concerning your construction permit, the construction permit or license application process, equipment or program test authority, please contact the Technical Processing Group of the Audio Services Division at (202)-418-2700. Legal questions may be referred to the Legal Processing Group of the Audio Services Division at (202)-418-2700. The Audio Services Division has also placed a large amount of information on the Internet <http://www.fcc.gov/mmb/asd/>.